

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application. Claims 1-14 are rejected. Claims 1 and 14 are amended. New claims 15-17 are added. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, applicant requests reconsideration of the rejected claims under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111.

Objections to the Specification

The action indicates that the title of the invention is not descriptive, and that a new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Although the original title is brief, technically accurate, and descriptive, in the interest of facilitating prosecution of the application the title has been amended. The applicant suggests that the amended title is clearly indicative of the claimed invention, and requests that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4 and 6-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Dowling et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,522,875). The Dowling reference discloses a web browser that permit a user to navigate a set of network web pages based on the user's location.

The applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the utility of notifying a user of another portable information terminal that has entered into a predetermined area. Dowling fails to teach or suggest the notification of the user that an additional portable information terminal has entered into a predetermined area.

The applicant suggests that, as amended, claim 1 is novel and not anticipated by the Dowling reference, and that the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

be withdrawn. In addition, claim 14 has been amended to depend from claim 1, and therefore incorporate each and every element of claim 1. New claims 15-17 have been added to more particularly claim the invention. Support for the amendments may be found generally in the specification, and more particularly at page 38, lines 16-22.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 5 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dowling et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,522,875) in view of LeBlanc et al., (U.S. Patent no. 6,236,365). As discussed above with respect to Dowling et al., claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the ability to notify a user of another portable information terminal that has entered into a predetermined area. The applicant suggests that Dowling fails to teach or suggest the notification of the user that an additional portable information terminal has entered into a predetermined area. Further, while LeBlanc discloses the capability of locating a target mobile station and informing the mobile station of their location, neither Dowling nor LeBlanc disclose the designation of an additional portable information terminal, and the predetermination of a selected area, such that a notification is generated when the target portable information terminal enters the predetermined area.

As claim 5 and claim 14 (as amended) depend from claim 1, the applicant suggests that the Dowling et al. and LeBlanc references, singly or in combination, fail to render the amended claims obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103, and therefore request the withdrawal of the rejection of those claims.

The above amendments and remarks are believed to address fully the Examiner's rejections, and place the application in condition for allowance. A prompt indication of the

same respectfully is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephonic interview.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313, on November 11, 2003.

George Painter

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Date of Signature: November 11, 2003

Respectfully submitted,
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